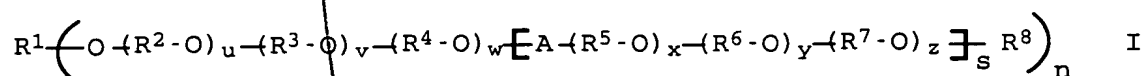


We claim:

1. A process for preparing graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters
5 by polymerization of

- a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C₁-C₂₄-carboxylic acids in the presence of
- 10 b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I



in which the variables have the following meaning,
independently of one another:

- 20 R¹ hydrogen, C₁-C₂₄-alkyl, R⁹-C(=O)-, R⁹-NH-C(=O)-, polyalcohol residue;

- R⁸ hydrogen, C₁-C₂₄-alkyl, R⁹-C(=O)-, R⁹-NH-C(=O)-;

- 25 R^2 to R^7

$$-(\text{CH}_2)_2-, -(\text{CH}_2)_3-, -(\text{CH}_2)_4-, -\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-, \\ -\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_3)-, -\text{CH}_2-\text{CHOR}^{10}-\text{CH}_2-;$$

- 30 R⁹ C₁-C₂₄-alkyl;

- R^{10} hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl, $R^9-C(=O)-$;

- 35 A $-C(=O)-O-$, $-C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-$,
 $-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-$;

- B $-(CH_2)_t-$, arylene, optionally substituted;

- ```

n 1 to 8;

```

- ```
s    0 to 500;
```

- ```
t 1 to 12;
```

- ```
45      u      1 to 5000;
```

27

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solution of the free-radical initiator system is added continuously throughout the polymerization reaction time.

3. A process as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, wherein liquid polyethylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator at room temperature.

4. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 as coating agents, binders and/or film-forming excipients for pharmaceutical dosage forms.

5. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 as additives to cosmetic, hygienic and/or dermatological preparations.

6. A cosmetic, dermatological, hygienic or pharmaceutical dosage form comprising at least one of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claims 1 to 3 in addition to conventional excipients.

7. Graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters obtainable by polymerization of

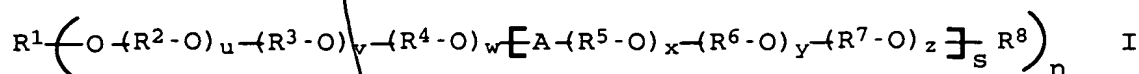
a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C₁-C₂₄-carboxylic acids in the presence of

b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I

Sub B1
Contd

Sub A1

Sub B2



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in which the variables have the following meaning,
independently of one another:

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R^1 hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl; R^9 - $C(=O)$ -, R^9 -NH- $C(=O)$ -,
polyalcohol residue;

R^8 hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl, R^9 - $C(=O)$ -, R^9 -NH- $C(=O)$ -;

15

R^2 to R^7

$-(CH_2)_2$ -, $-(CH_2)_3$ -, $-(CH_2)_4$ -, $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)-$,
 $-CH_2-CH(CH_2-CH_3)-$, $-CH_2-CHOR^{10}-CH_2-$;

20

R^9 C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl;

R^{10} hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl, R^9 - $C(=O)$ -;

25

A $-C(=O)-O-$, $-C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-$,
 $-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-$;

B $-(CH_2)_t$ -, arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

30

s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

35

u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

40

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

45

z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

11-4-60
 Sub B2
 Cont

29

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

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add B³add B³

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45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5

Sub B³
contd